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MAY 17 2006

Attorney's Docket 008312-0284091
Client Reference: T4HW-01S1389-1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:
MASANORI GUNJI, ET AL.

Confirmation No: 4645

Application No.: 09/986,143

Group Art Unit: 2621

Filed: November 7, 2001

Examiner: TOPGYAL, Gelek W.

Title: RECORDING/REPRODUCING APPARATUS

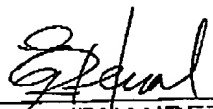
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Response to Restriction Requirement

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendments
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 20, 2006, Applicants elect to pursue the invention of Group I, identified as claims 1-7 for further prosecution in the application.

Applicants reserve the right to pursue the invention of non-elected Group II (claims 8-12) in a divisional application.

An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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